

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6 and 7, which are independent, have been amended. Claims 22-27 are hereby added. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed and specifically at pages 30-31. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicants are entitled.

The title of the present Application has been amended.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,930,446 to Kanda (hereinafter, merely "Kanda").

Claim 1, as amended, recites, *inter alia*:

“...providing means for providing the edited data for reediting;

....

editing means for reediting the edited data in accordance with a determining operation, for determining a new start or end point, the determining operation being performed while the material data is being reproduced in synchronization with the

operation for changing the specified start or the end point of the partial data; and
an external control panel having manually operable elements for controlling said editing means for reediting in the absence of a graphical user interface.” (Emphasis Added)

Kanda relates to a synchronized recording and reproducing apparatus that can simultaneously perform a recording operation for recording a video signal and/or an audio signal on a recording medium and a reproducing operation for reproducing the video signal and/or the audio signal recorded on the recording medium. An instruction concerning the recording operation and the reproducing operation is inputted via a graphical user interface. Consequently, editing can be carried out along with the recording operation, and the operation state can be visually ascertained and management of the system is made easy.

Kanda does not teach or suggest providing means for providing the edited data for reediting; and an external control panel having manually operable elements for controlling in the absence of graphical user interface, editing means for reediting the edited data in accordance with a determining operation, for determining a new start or end point, the determining operation being performed while the material data is being reproduced in synchronization with the operation for changing the specified start or the end point of the partial data, as recited in claim 1. In particular, Kanda does not teach or suggest the external control panel having manually operable elements for controlling the editing means in the absence of a graphical user interface. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, amended independent claims 6 and 7 are also believed to be patentable.

Applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 1, 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the above-identified reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.


CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of the statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate the portion, or portions, of the reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By 
William S. Frommer
Reg. No. 25,506
(212) 588-0800